

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

5

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): In an audio system, a A method of encoding (1) an audio signal (x), and decoding the encoded audio signal, the method comprising the steps of:
estimating (110) a position of a transient signal component in the audio ~~signal;~~
10 signal, for obtaining a position parameter indicative of the estimated position;
matching (111,112) a shape function on the transient signal component in case the transient signal component is gradually declining after an initial increase, which shape function has a substantially exponential initial behavior and a substantially logarithmic declining behavior; and
15 including (15) the position and shape parameters describing the shape function in an audio stream (AS). to provide the encoded audio signal.
2. (original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shape function is a Laguerre function or a generalized discrete Laguerre function.
20
3. (original): A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein shape function is a Meixner function or a Meixner-like function.
4. (original): A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one of the shape
25 parameters is determined by a ratio of slopes of running first and a second order moments of the audio signal (x).

5. (original); A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shape parameters include a step indication in case the transient signal component is a step-like change in amplitude.
- 5 6. (original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the position of the transient signal component is a start position.
7. (original): A method as claimed in claim 1, the method further comprising:
flattening a part of the audio signal that is furnished to at least one sustained
10 coding stage by using the shape function in a gain control mechanism.
8. (currently amended): ~~Method of decoding an audio stream, the method comprising the steps of:~~ The method of claim 1, further including for decoding the encoded audio signal the steps of:
15 generating (31) from said position parameter a transient signal component at a given position; and
calculating (31) a shape function based on received shape parameters, which shape function has a substantially exponential initial behavior and a substantially logarithmic declining behavior.
20
9. (original): Audio coder (1), comprising:
means for estimating (110) a position of a transient signal component in the audio signal;
means for matching (111,112) a shape function on the transient signal
25 component in case the transient signal component is gradually declining after an initial increase, which shape function has a substantially exponential initial behavior and has a substantially logarithmic declining behavior; and
means for including (15) the position and shape parameters describing the shape function in an audio stream (AS).

Appl. No. 09/804,022
Amdt. Dated October 4, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 20, 2004

10. (original): Audio player (3), comprising
means for generating (31) a transient signal component at a given position; and
means for calculating (31) a shape function based on received shape
parameters, which shape function has a substantially exponential initial behavior and a
5 substantially logarithmic declining behavior.
11. (canceled).
12. (canceled).
- 10 13. (canceled).